Learning Conversation Notes		
Name of Partner: Superior Court High	<b>Date:</b> 03-02-2005	
Conflict Calendar (STEP)		
Number of Children Served:	<b>Ages:</b> < 1 yr (8), 1 yr (7), 2 yr (8),	
53 Families with 59 children 0-5	3 yr (13), 4 yr ( 15), 5 yr (7)	
Exits: 9 Families involving 12 children 0-5		
have exited the program since 7-1-2004		
When Served:	Gender:	Ethnicity:
07-01-2005 to Present	26 F, 33 M	40 Cauc
		13 Hisp
		5 African Amer
		1 Middle Eastern

**Conversation Participants:** Chris Trejo, Suzanne Feris, Amy Rudd, Conni Ward, Marlene Lockwood, Tamara Lieberman-Commissioner, Judge Gene Gini, Judge Frances Kearney, Don Ferretti, Nancy Baggett, Michael Romero, Heidi Kolbe-Facilitator

#### Outcomes:

- Parents served through this program will communicate effectively with each other and their children, cooperatively co-parent, facilitate a more nurturing environment, and promote positive mental and emotional child development.
- Parents will demonstrate sustained ability to resolve parental conflict independent of the court, utilizing community resources as needed.

#### **Performance Measures:**

- Demographics (number of 0-5 served by gender, age, and when services were provided).
- Placer Early Childhood Outcome Screens
- Client Exit Survey Summary
- Post graduation assessment of sustained ability to resolve conflict independent of the court (phone contact)

# What is this data telling us about achievement of outcomes?

There is a high number of families currently being served. Fifty families is about the maximum number the program can handle effectively. There is a waiting list.

The intent of the "exit" is successful graduation of the program. Some individuals may be exited due to major non-compliance. But the data presented represents those who have successfully completed the program

Q 4: None of the parents rated themselves worse. 8 of 12 parents rated their ability to nurture their child improved after attending the program. On the follow up 12 of 18 parents rated themselves better.

The parenting class brought out the main point that bad communication skills are being passed on to the children. Once aware, the parents are more inclined to change their behavior to using more positive methods of communication. Parents are monitored for at least a year to be sure they are maintaining a nurturing environment.

On the exit survey, the data is reflecting that the parents are doing better with their child, but they are not showing as much improvement in dealing with each other/other adults. The follow up survey, however indicates that there is more improvement overall. The parents were able to step back from the program and resolve their own issues. Only 2 of the 18 families returned to the court.

When parents learn to communicate effectively and without conflict, they are doing a better job nurturing their children.

Parents perceived their situation better over time, than at the initial exit

The program seems to back the children more than the parents. But the parents are learning that they must resolve themselves to be in the family dynamic, and make changes for the benefit of their children

Review of the outcome screens:

- # 3 Regarding Safety not being physically, sexually, or emotionally abused. Most of the children (emotional abuse dominates) are coming in at 3 or less which indicates the need for services. As they move through the program, 37 of 59 improved and 20 stayed the same.
- #4 Demonstrating self-controlled, positive, non-violent behavior: 39 are improving, 18 are staying the same, and only 2 declined.
- #6 Healthy: Happy and experiencing a positive relationship with caregiver: 40 improved, 13 stayed the same and only 6 declined.

# What is this data telling us about achievement of outcomes? (Con't)

#9 Healthy: Achieving appropriate level of emotional development: 39 improved, 15 stayed the same and only 5 declined. Indication is that future services for the children will be needed

Overall the children are coming in needing services. Going through the program educates both parents and children about what are positive behaviors. The emotional improvement allows the nurturing process to come into play.

# In what ways will we apply what we have learned from our data?

STEP is using the screens as an evaluation tool to monitor the progress of the child

The screens indicate that if the parents are predictable and consistent, the child responds by demonstrating more positive behaviors.

# Other points that were made during the conversation:

Get data from both parents to get a perspective from each parent. Have all the issues been addressed?

Data indicates that on completion of the program, services are not needed. But in reality the children, may need additional emotional support.

#### **Next Steps:**

Consider survey question About the same – still good, or About the same – still bad Revise the survey to include the question on the same page as the results

Fine tune the exit survey. Separate the data by family.

Update the screen in tracker.

Consider a survey question "How would you handle conflict in the future" or "What tools from the program have you used to resolve conflicts after leaving the program

Consider some other person to make the follow up survey call.

Meet again in September 05 for the next learning conversation